

Mortimer, Adam (MAG)

From: Unfried, Christa (SOLGEN)
Sent: Friday, February 04, 2022 6:56 PM
To: DiTommaso, Mario (SOLGEN)
Cc: Abdi, Fuad (MCM); Letang, Chris (SOLGEN)
Subject: FW: Strategic Updates - February 4, 2021

Good evening Deputy,
On behalf of Chris,

STRATEGIC UPDATES FOR DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-04 at 1800 hours.

Opposition to Public Health Measures

- No new incidents to report.

ASSESSMENT

Currently, there is no specific, identified threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among participants in or supporters of opposition activities.

Freedom Convoy 2022 (Ottawa)

Police Reporting

- Current crowds in Ottawa are being reported as small and there are minimal people on Parliament Hill or surrounding streets. Events during the day appeared loosely organized and improvisational. Downtown Ottawa remains accessible only by foot.
- The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reports approximately 500 trucks in the downtown core. Some of the drivers have demobilized their vehicles in various ways.
- Police are actively engaged in investigating a social media post that an individual present at the protest in Ottawa was armed and had threatened to shoot police.
- Protestors have constructed a wooden structure (hut or shelter) at Confederation Park.
- Police reporting indicates ongoing counter-demonstrations in Ottawa have taken place in a manner that is sporadic and unorganized. Applications for organized counter-protests are being denied.
- OPS reports that a well-known Ontario COVID-19 conspiracy theorist is speaking daily at Parliament Hill. This conspiracy theorist was criminally charged by Toronto Police Service in May 2021 with uttering death threats, assaulting a peace officer with a weapon, and one count of dangerous operation of a conveyance in relation to the conspiracy theorist's alleged threats against the Premier and actions to evade law enforcement.

- Police information reports the QAnon-endorsed conspiracy theorist and self-proclaimed Queen of Canada may have departed Ottawa for Quebec.
- The RCMP reports a convoy departing Calgary en route to Ottawa (see Event Schedule below).

Open Source Reporting

- A bus from Toronto to Ottawa (return) has been organized to bring people to the protest every Saturday.
- The GoFundMe account supporting the Freedom Convoy remains paused and currently amounts to \$10.1 million (2022-02-03 0730 hours). GoFundMe has paused the Freedom Convoy fundraising while it undertakes a review to confirm that the initiative complies with the company's terms of service. A message on the Freedom Convoy 2022 Facebook page notes that the GoFundMe has been paused and asks for donations via e-transfer.

Upcoming Toronto Convoy

Police Reporting

- The Toronto Police Service (TPS) stood up its command centres today and is requesting numbers for any protests around the province that may travel to Toronto.

Open Source Reporting

- Information circulated through social media channels has advertised several coordinated convoys departing a number of locations in Ontario destined for Queen's Park on February 5, 2022. All truck drivers in the GTA have been invited to participate and have been requested not to bring their trailers. The event is being promoted online as "kid friendly and peaceful". Truck drivers currently in the Ottawa blockade may depart to participate in a convoy to Queens Park in Toronto.
- The following provides details regarding the Toronto Convoy for Freedom:
 - **"Convoy for Freedom Toronto"** - Queen's Park, start time 1200 hours. All meet points (unless noted) are to muster at 1000 hours, depart at 1100 hours.
 - Orangeville – 95 First Street;
 - Vaughan Mills;
 - Scarborough Town Centre;
 - Yorkdale Mall;
 - Sherway Gardens;
 - Square One;
 - Oakville – Tim Hortons, Hyde Park Gate, HWY 403 and Dundas;
 - Niagara Falls – 300 Taylor Rd. (meeting early at 0900 hours)
 - Oshawa: Oshawa to Toronto Freedom Convoy 2022 – 555 Simcoe Street (1100 hours)
- Unconfirmed information suggests that groups from Barrie, Muskoka, Bradford, Oakville and Oshawa may travel to Toronto to join the protest. PoJ have advised they will monitor and report numbers.

- Open source information indicates a counter-protest is planned to coincide with the Convoy for Freedom Toronto and will commence at University Avenue and Gerrard Street at 1130 hours (also in **Event Schedule**). The event is being promoted online and its stated aim is to prevent the truck drivers from blocking Hospital Row. Online promotion of the event uses extremist rhetoric and focuses on extremist emblems in images of the Freedom Convoy protest in Ottawa.

Other Potential Activity

- Local convoy actions are anticipated in jurisdictions across the province, please see event schedule for identified actions to date.
- Open source reporting notes a page for members of the commercial fishing industry issuing a call for workers in the maritime sector to protest in ports all over Canada and in shipping lanes to support the truck driver protest. A post on the page calls for an initial event on 2022-02-05. No specific ports are named.
- Open source reporting notes commercial truck drivers and supporters may conduct slow rolls on roadways near the Ambassador Bridge over the next three days, and may attempt to block the bridge 2022-02-07.

ASSESSMENT

The protest landscape related to public health restrictions and vaccine mandates is fluid and dynamic, with solidarity demonstrations or convoys developing in many jurisdictions. There is the potential for conflict amongst individuals and groups with differing agendas at these protests, which could pose both a public safety and officer safety threat. At this juncture, there is no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest and Operation BearHug 2.0 activity. However, the possibility that a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a physical threat with little or no warning cannot be excluded.

The ongoing truck blockades in Ottawa and Coutts, Alberta, have the potential to develop into a national civil disobedience movement that could extend to maritime transportation and, potentially, other major transportation sectors. It is likely that new convoys, blockades and protests in support of the Ottawa blockade will occur in Ontario for the foreseeable future and will strain law enforcement resources. It is all but certain that these events will disrupt the movement of goods and people. Some events are likely to be well organized; others may develop organically or spontaneously with little warning. Blockades are likely at strategic locations, such as border points, ports, transportation hubs, and in major urban centres. These events may also draw counter-protests, which may present public safety threats.

The blockades in Alberta are significant from where the strategies taken by authorities toward a resolution may inform protest behaviour in Ontario. Additionally, the manner in which protestors respond to attempts by the Alberta government to resolve the problem could provide indicators of potential responses by protestors in Ontario, particularly in Ottawa. Should the situation in Coutts deteriorate, solidarity actions may lead to confrontation between authorities and protestors in Ontario; while any indication, real or perceived, that the Alberta government might accede to the protesters' demands could encourage ongoing protests in Ontario.

EVENT SCHEDULE

February 4, 2022

- **Toronto:** Convoy Protest – Tractor Meet, Queens Park (1300 hours)
- **Ottawa: Support Convoy to Ottawa** (0900 hours) – departure location unclear, **possibly Toronto**
- **Sudbury: Freedom Convoy** – departing from Bell Park Parking lot at 1700 hours; donations to be brought by 1600 hours. Travel the TransCanada Highway to Ottawa; GSPS advises not a lot of interest
- **Niagara Falls: Convoy to Ottawa Niagara Region Support** - Departing Niagara Falls (0700 hours). This event has been removed from Facebook – unknown why.
- **Wellington County: Tractor Convoy to Queens Park** – reported to be a very small group; being respectful to other motorists
- **Kitchener: Freedom Rally** – City Hall (1400 hours)
- **Iroquois Falls:** Convoy around Iroquois Falls (1400 hours)
- **Hanover-Walkerton County: Freedom Convoy** – nightly convoy (1800 hours)
- **Windsor: Slow Roll** – approximately 20-25 commercial trucks and 50 passenger vehicles (morning)
- **Oakville:** protest at Halton Regional Police HQ for anti-mask protestor being fingerprinted
- **Unnamed Maritime Ports – Mariners for Freedom 2022 Slow Roll** (1200-1300 hours)

February 5, 2022

QUEEN'S PARK PROTEST

- **Toronto: Convoy Protest (Ending at Queens Park)** – meeting points at 1000 hours as follows:
 - Orangeville – 95 First Street;
 - Vaughan Mills (Vehicles from Barrie and Bradford may join the convoy at this location);
 - Scarborough Town Centre;
 - Yorkdale Mall;
 - Sherway Gardens;
 - Square One;
 - Oakville – Tim Hortons, Hyde Park Gate, HWY 403 and Dundas;
 - Niagara Falls – 300 Taylor Rd. (meeting early at 0900 hours)
- **Ottawa: Freedom Dance Party** – Parliament Hill (1200 -1500 hours)(Destination Confederation Park)
- **Ottawa (Parliament Hill): Second Wave 2022** - Human Chain Around Parliament Hill (1400 hours)
- **Ottawa: Counter-Protest – 474 Elgin Street (1200 hours) to City Hall (1400 hours -1700 hours)**
- **Prescott Russell: Support aux Truckers sur la Colline du Parlement** – Departing Embrun (1000 hours) en route to Ottawa
- **Alexandria: Farmer Convoy to Ottawa 2.0** – Alexandria (0600 hours) to Monkland; Lemieux; Bourget; Cheney; Ottawa
- **Kingston/Ottawa: Back to Ottawa Convoy** – HWY 38 Carpool (HWY 401 and Gardiners Rd.) (0830 hours); stopping at Mallorytown (0915 hours)
- **Sudbury:** Slow Roll (local) – possibly 100 cars
- **Oshawa: Oshawa to Toronto Freedom Convoy 2022** – 555 Simcoe Street (1100 hours) destination Toronto
- **Oshawa: Rise Up Durham** will be meeting at 555 Simcoe St S at 1000 hours and travelling to the protest in Toronto – no indication of numbers yet. Rise Up Durham is encouraging its members not to block hospitals – potential for conflict with STOP THE TRUCKER CONVOY protestors (below)
- **Toronto: Stop the Trucker Convoy From Blocking Tkaronto Hospitals – University and Gerrard (1130 hours)**
- **Windsor: Freedom Convoy Peaceful Slowdown on Huron Line** – Mic Mac Park (1000 hours)
- **Waterloo: True North Strong and Free** – Town Square – convoy or on foot (1200 hours)

- **Oakville:** Freedom Convoy to Queens Park
- **Burlington:** car crawl through downtown to City Hall from the Burlington Mall, 777 Guelph Line
- **London: Freedom Convoy Support** – meet at McDonald's parking lot across Costco on Wellington
- **Cambridge: Occupy Hespeler Rd** – office of MP Brian MAY, 534 Hespeler Rd. (1100 hours)

Guelph: no formal convoy; 10-12 people possibly going to Ottawa

- **Niagara:** 30 people indicating an interest in attending a gathering at outlet mall; possible slow roll to Grimsby at 1300 hours
- **Welland:** Freedom Protest at City Hall, 25 people indicating interest
- **Barrie:** local slow roll possibly involving 900-1000 people or vehicles

• **Norfolk County: Tractor Convoy (four routes) – Destination Simcoe**

- Route A: **Dunnville** (1000 hours) through Selkirk, Fisherville, Nelles Corners to Cayuga (1130 hours)
- Route B: **Cayuga** (1200 hours) through Jarvis to Simcoe (1300 hours)
- Route C: **Langton** (1000 hours) to Port Rowan ending in Simcoe (1200 hours)
- Route D: **Tillsonburg** (1000 hours) through Delhi and Waterford to Simcoe (1200 hours)

• **Goderich-Huron County: Slow Roll Supporting Our Ottawa Convoy** – MacEwan St. (1200 hours)

- **Alexandria: Farmer Convoy to Ottawa 2.0 (East Route)** – Depart Alexandria (0600 hours), to Monkland, Lemieux, Bourget, Cheney to Ottawa (Parliament Hill)
- **Franktown: Farmer Convoy to Ottawa 2.0 (West Route)** – Depart Franktown 0815 hours through Smiths Falls to Ottawa (Parliament Hill)
- **Oshawa: Oshawa to Toronto Freedom Convoy 2022** – 555 Simcoe Street (1100 hours) destination Toronto
- **Cornwall: Cornwall Convoy 2022** – destination not noted (1000 hours)
- **Cochrane:** Convoy through Cochrane (1100 hours)
- **Minden: Slow Roll Convoy** - Minden; Haliburton; Carnarvon-Minden starts 1100 hours
- **Hamilton: Convoy** – (no further detail – some participants possibly travelling to Ottawa and Queens Park)
- **North Bay: Convoy Support Group** – local convoy (1430 hours)
- **Sudbury: Convoy to Ottawa** – details to be confirmed
- **Timmins:** Timmins Convoy – unconfirmed information about convoy from Timmins joining Sudbury

February 6, 2022

- **Calgary-Ottawa: Freedom's Second Wave** – Departing 1000 hours, 11511 40 St SE, Calgary; travel through Regina; Winnipeg; Thunder Bay; Sault Ste. Marie; Ottawa
- **Waterloo: True North Strong and Free** – Town Square – convoy or on foot (1200 hours)
- **Huntsville:** Anti-PHO Protest - Huntsville Place Mall to Doe Lake return (1100 hours)
- **Hearst: Hearst Convoy Support Rally** – (1300 hours – no further detail)
- **Bracebridge:** Anti-PHO protest – Memorial Park, joined by Huntsville Convoy (1400 hours)
- **Echo Bay: Horse Convoy** – horses and riders local route in support of the Freedom Convoy (1400 hours)
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)
- **Bolton:** United We Stand – local demonstration (1300 hours)

February 7, 2022

- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)

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